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Subject: Flint Readout 06/21/16

Flint mayor agrees to go with KWA pipeline

By Steve Carmody, Michigan Radio 06/21/16 4:15 PM

After months of wrangling, Flint Mayor Karen Weaver is reluctantly agreeing to hook the city up to the new Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline for the city's drinking water. Emergency managers made the decision to switch Flint's drinking water to the KWA pipeline as a way to save money. Flint's city council gave its stamp of approval as well. But Flint's new elected leaders wanted out of the deal because of the cost.

Flint to Get Water From Lake Huron as Soon as System Ready

By Mike Householder, ABC News 06/21/16 3:44 PM

Flint will get water from the Karegnondi Water Authority after that system is ready, the mayor said Tuesday, even though she had threatened to break an agreement to join the system in the aftermath of the Michigan city's lead-tainted water crisis. Mayor Karen Weaver said Flint's contract with the water authority would be difficult to break. She earlier said she wouldn't rule out staying with Detroit's regional water system, regardless of the agreement with Karegnondi. Flint's supply was switched from Detroit water to the Flint River as a cost-cutting measure in 2014, but the water was not properly treated and that resulted in the corrosion of lead pipes.

Flint's Water System Said to Face Long-Term Challenges

By Kris Maher, Wall Street Journal 06/21/16 1:27 PM

More than six months after a state of emergency was declared in Flint, Mich., the immediate pressures of the city's lead-tainted water crisis have abated, but deeper questions about its ability to deliver safe drinking water are coming into focus. Like other former industrial hubs, Flint has a water distribution system built for a far larger population. Miles of pipe beneath the city are prone to leaks and ruptures. The cash-strapped city has struggled to upgrade and maintain equipment and hire enough employees to operate its treatment plant.

Flint agrees to move forward with plans to connect to KWA

By Jiquanda Johnson, MLIVE 06/21/16 1:06 PM

City officials announced that Flint will follow through with an agreement to connect the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline to Lake Huron. Mayor Karen Weaver said the city is obligated to keep with contractual agreements regarding the KWA pipeline. Weaver made the announcement during a Tuesday morning press conference along with Gov. Rick Snyder and other government officials. "None of us that are here represented the city of Flint when these deals were on the table and these decisions were made," said Weaver. "I've always said I didn't think it was a good deal for the city of Flint but that's where we are."

Flint chooses KWA as future water source

By Drew Moore, NBC 25 News 06/21/16 [video clip]

Governor Rick Snyder and Flint Mayor Karen Weaver held a joint press conference today to announce the future of Flint water. In the press conference, Weaver said Flint will continue with the original plan of using the Karegnondi Water Authority. Weaver explained that no one representing the city now made the initial deal with the KWA.

Mayor Weaver: Flint to stick with new KWA pipeline

By, Paul Egan & Matthew Dolan, Detroit Free Press 06/21/16 11:21 AM

Mayor Karen Weaver said Tuesday she's not happy with the deal Flint struck to join the new Karegnondi Water Authority, but Flint will stay with the new pipeline to Lake Huron and seek better financial and other terms, because the contract is just too difficult to break. "We've gotten information that these are binding contracts," Weaver said at a news conference at Flint City Hall.

Flint Sticks With Plan to Leave Detroit for Regional Water Source

By Kris Maher & Joe Barrett, Wall Street Journal 06/21/16 10:29 AM

The mayor of Flint, Mich., said Tuesday that the city will follow through on a prior plan to switch the city's drinking water source from Detroit to a new regional water authority, a decision that indirectly sparked the city's lead-tainted water crisis two years ago. Mayor Karen Weaver said that after reviewing the contracts signed when the city was led by a state-appointed emergency manager, Flint would move ahead with the plan to draw from the Karegnondi Water Authority. The regional water authority will draw water from Lake Huron through a pipeline. "I'm not excited about this," said Ms. Weaver, noting that it didn't appear the city could get out of the contract. "But you have to work with the hand that you're dealt."

Officials: Flint will remain with KWA

By Jim Lynch, Jacob Carah & Jonathan Oosting, Detroit News 06/21/16 9:39 AM

Flint Mayor Karen Weaver and Gov. Rick Snyder announced Tuesday an agreement that will allow the city to move forward with a plan to join the new Karegnondi Water Authority. That decision has been in limbo since Weaver took office in November. She had previously declined to sign off on the deal to move to the new regional drinking water authority, saying it was a questionable deal for Flint that was reached without adequate local input.

Flint to get water from Lake Huron as soon as system ready

By WXYZ Detroit ABC 7 06/21/16 6:06 AM

The Michigan city of Flint will get water from the Karegnondi Water Authority system as soon

as it's ready, even though the mayor had threatened to break an agreement in the aftermath of its crisis with lead-tainted water. Mayor Karen Weaver announced the decision Tuesday, saying its contract would be difficult to break. She earlier said she wouldn't rule out staying with the Detroit-area's regional water system regardless of the agreement. Flint's supply was switched from Detroit water to the Flint River in 2014 but not properly treated, resulting in corrosion of lead pipes.

Flint to Get Lake Water When System is Ready

USA Today 06/21/16 [video clip]

Gov. Rick Snyder releases additional batches of departmental emails and documents regarding Flint water crisis

Press Release 06/21/16

Gov. Rick Snyder's office today posted additional batches of emails and corresponding documents from state departments regarding the Flint water crisis. The documentation represents requests fulfilled to date by the Department of Environmental Quality, the Executive Office, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Michigan State Police, the Department of Talent and Economic Development, the Talent Investment Agency, the Department of Technology, Management and Budget, and the Department of Treasury.

Snyder releases 303K pages of Flint emails, documents

By Leonard N. Fleming, Detroit News 06/21/16 2:06 PM

Gov. Rick Snyder's office on Tuesday released 303,331 pages of emails and documents related to the Flint water crisis in what officials described as the final public release of its kind. This latest batch of documents comes months after the first set of emails were made public in January, right about the time Flint's water crisis began to make national news and put the governor's administration under intense scrutiny.

More emails released from Gov. Snyder's office, regarding Flint water crisis

By WILX NBC 10 06/21/16 12:52 PM

Gov. Rick Snyder has released another large batch of departmental emails and documents regarding the Flint Water Crisis. The documentation covers requests by the Department of Environmental Quality, the Executive Office, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Michigan State Police, the Department of Talent and Economic Development, the Talent Investment Agency, the Department of Technology, Management and Budget, and the Department of Treasury.

Gov. Snyder releases additional state Emails about Flint water crisis

By Sierra Pedraja, Click on Detroit 06/21/16 12:44 PM

Governor Rick Snyder's office released a new batch of emails and corresponding documents regarding the water crisis in Flint on Tuesday. This batch will be the last public posting of documents relating to the water crisis from the governors' office. The first batch of Emails was released in February, and can be viewed [here](#).

Gov. Rick Snyder releases final batch of Flint water emails

By Gary Ridley, MLIVE 06/21/16 11:56 AM

Gov. Rick Snyder's office has released its final batch of emails related to the Flint water crisis. Snyder's office announced Tuesday, June 21, that it has posted emails and corresponding documents from state departments involving the city's water problems.

Other News

Michigan Radio Wins National Edward R. Murrow Award

By Steve Chrypinski, Michigan Radio 06/21/16 12:00 PM

Michigan Radio has been recognized with a national Edward R. Murrow Award. The award, in the Large Market Radio – News Documentary category, was received for “Not Safe to Drink.” The documentary series traced the history and story behind the Flint water crisis. “Not Safe to Drink” aired on Michigan Radio in December, 2015. It was produced and written by Lindsey Smith, with help from Sarah Hulett and Jennifer Guerra. Additional reporting by Steve Carmody, Mark Brush, Rebecca Williams and other members of the Michigan Radio news team.

Flint water crisis book focuses on government failures, those who fought back

By Ron Fonger, MLIVE 06/21/16 7:11 AM

The first book about the Flint water crisis is targeted for release this week, promising a "riveting, authoritative account of the government blunders, mendacity and arrogance" that allowed it to happen. Published by Bridge Magazine, The Center for Michigan, and Mission Point Press, "Poison On Tap" details how the water crisis unfolded after the city began using the Flint River as its source of drinking water in April 2014.

How the Flint water crisis and a statehouse scandal gave a boost to FOIA reform in Michigan

By Anna Clark, Columbia Journalism Review 06/21/16

A succession of high-profile scandals in Michigan over the last year have cast a spotlight on the high cost of secrecy in state government. Now, there's an opportunity for open records reform with a bipartisan 10-bill package that passed unanimously through a House committee this spring—and it's championed by a young lawmaker who once trained as a reporter. Journalists have long grumbled about the weak open-records law in Michigan, one of only two states where both the legislature and the governor's office are exempt from the state Freedom of Information Act. Michigan ranked dead last in the most recent State Integrity Report Card from the Center for Public Integrity and Global Integrity, with failing grades for legislative accountability, executive accountability, and public access to information.

Flint water crisis website gets new design

By Jiquanda Johnson, MLIVE 06/20/16 7:11 PM

The state is introducing a revamped design for the Flint Water website hoping to make things a little easier for visitors looking for information on the city's water crisis. "During the redesign process, we presented our proposed website changes to Flint residents through a community communications group and incorporated their suggestions so that the website could be as helpful as possible," Gov. Rick Snyder said in a [Monday, June 20 press release](#).

Water main break leads to boil advisory for some Flint residents

By Roberto Acosta, MLIVE 06/20/16 6:57 PM

A segment of Flint residents are being advised to boil their water before using it after a pressure drop due to replace broken valves following a water main break along Court Street. The main

break has left a large sinkhole on Court Street, near Downey Street, with crews at the site Monday afternoon to begin repairs that will include valves at the street's intersection with Pershing, Vosburg, and Durand streets on Tuesday, June 21.

More than \$9 million received by Flint foundation for water crisis relief

By Roberto Acosta, MLIVE 06/20/16 6:50 PM

Representatives from the Community Foundation of Greater Flint were peppered with questions Monday afternoon by city residents on where money is being amid the millions of dollars in donations flooding into the city in response to the water crisis. More than \$9.3 million has been donated to seven funds established at the foundation in regards to the water crisis, including the Flint Child Health and Development Fund started by Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha and two lines started by Dallas Cowboys cornerback Brandon Carr.

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